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Irish Naval Service – PDFORRA successfully concludes negotiations with Government about extra pay for participants in Rescue Operation Pontus



Operation Pontus is a codename for a humanitarian mission in which the Irish Naval Service engaged in the years 2015 and 2016. In cooperation with the Italian authorities, it consisted in searching the Mediterranean for migrants in need and bringing them to safety. At its conclusion, 15,000 migrants were thus saved by the Irish Naval Service.

PDFORRA, the association representing members of the Irish Armed Forces, negotiated with the Government about granting an extra pay to members of the armed forces who participated in this mission. PDFORRA's General Secretary, Gerry Rooney, declared: "It has been a long struggle to come to the point where an acceptable level of payment for this demanding mission has been agreed. The additional payment of €15 per day tax free recognises the demanding nature of the mission and gives a total agreed payment of €70 per day tax free".

Gerry Rooney also declared that the agreement was important for future negotiations to be held between PDFORRA and the Department of Defence about appropriately rewarding members of the armed forces for their participation in humanitarian missions.

We congratulate PDFORRA on the success achieved, which is once more an indication for the way in which our member organisation from Ireland represents the interests of its members from the Armed Forces with ongoing dedication and great professionalism.

www.pdforra.ie